

calling Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site. We urge that comments and suggestions be made in writing.

Issues currently being considered include determining the most appropriate use of existing temporary structures, management of increased recreational use, coping with tremendous residential development around the park, and how to best fulfill the park's interpretive mission. Central to these issues is the determination of the national historic site's mission, purpose, and significance. The plan will identify desired future conditions for cultural and natural resources and visitor experiences for various management units within Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site. A draft GMP/EIS will be prepared and presented to the public for review and comment, followed by preparation and availability of the final GMP/EIS.

Dated: May 9, 1999.

W. Thomas Brown,

Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Missouri.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) will prepare a General Management Plan (GMP) and an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Missouri, in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). This notice is being furnished as required by NEPA Regulations 40 CFR 1501.7.

To facilitate sound planning and environmental assessment, the NPS intends to gather information necessary for the preparation of the EIS, and to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS. Comments and participation in this scoping process are invited.

Participation in the planning process will be encouraged and facilitated by various means, including a newsletter and open houses. The NPS will conduct

a series of public scoping meetings to explain the planning process and to solicit opinion about issues to address in the GMP/EIS. Notification of all such meetings will be announced in the local press and in NPS newsletters.

DATES: Public scoping meetings will be held on May 25 and 26. On Tuesday, May 25 the meeting will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Visitor Center, 6424 West Farm Road 182 (intersection of Farm Road 182 and ZZ Highway) Republic, Missouri. On Wednesday, May 26 the meeting will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Busch Municipal Building, 840 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and information concerning the scope of the EIS and other matters should be directed to: Superintendent, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, 6424 West Farm Road 182, Republic, Missouri 65738.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gary Sullivan, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, 6424 West Farm Road 182, Republic, Missouri 65738, 417-882-9144, gary_sullivan@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Wilson's Creek National Battlefield was established to preserve one of the first major Civil War Battlefields and the site of the first Union General killed in the War. The public's enjoyment of the Battlefield is facilitated by providing a safe and accessible visitors center, museum, research library, roads, and trails; preserving and restoring the 1861 rural, agricultural setting, and encouraging its preservation around the park. The park also provides habitat for endangered species, and recreational opportunities that do not impair resource preservation, and the commemoration and interpretation of the Battle. Management of the Battlefield currently is guided by a 1977 master plan, which has become outdated.

In accordance with NPS Park Planning policy, the GMP will ensure the Battlefield has a clearly defined direction for resource preservation and visitor use. It will be developed in consultation with servicewide program managers, interested parties, and the general public. It will be based on an adequate analysis of existing and potential resource conditions and visitor experiences, environmental impacts, and costs of alternative courses of action.

The environmental review of the GMP/EIS for the Battlefield will be conducted in accordance with requirements of the NEPA (42 U.S.C.

4371 *et seq.*), NEPA regulations (40 CFR part 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal regulations, and National Park Service procedures and policies for compliance with those regulations.

The National Park Service estimates the draft GMP and draft EIS will be available to the public by September 2000.

Dated: May 6, 1999.

David N. Given,

Deputy Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 99-12088 Filed 5-12-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Public Meeting and Request for Comments on Development of a Wilderness Management Plan for Gulf Islands National Seashore, Mississippi

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings and request for comments on development of a wilderness management plan for Gulf Islands National Seashore, Mississippi.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service will hold a series of meetings to gather information to be used in the development of a Wilderness Management Plan for Gulf Islands National Seashore. The seashore was established by Congress on January 8, 1971, and consists of several barrier islands along the coast of Mississippi and Florida. On November 10, 1978, Congress designated the Mississippi islands of Horn and Petit Bois to be included in national Wilderness. The information gathered will be used in developing a management plan for the wilderness. Public comments will be accepted at the meetings and in written and electronic form until June 6, 1999.

DATES: The meeting dates are:

1. April 26, 1999, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Washington High School (Cafeteria), 6000 College Parkway, Pensacola, FL 32504
2. April 28, 1999, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jackson County Campus (Fine Arts Auditorium), 2300 U.S. Highway 90, Gautier, MS 39553
3. April 29, 1999, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium (Auditorium), 115 Beach Boulevard, U.S. Highway 90, Biloxi, MS 39530
4. May 3, 1999, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Jackson State University (3 p.m.—Recital hall, 7